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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/507,223	03/23/2005	Michel Pierre Cartigny	80350-1250	4423

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EXAMINER

SIMONE, TIMOTHY F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1761

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite in that it fails to point out what is included or excluded by the claim language. This claim is an omnibus type claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being clearly anticipated by Park (US 6,513,420). Park clearly discloses an appliance for cooking food under pressure comprising a vessel (2) and a lid (4), at least one jaw (8) for locking the lid to the vessel, means (14) for driving the at least one jaw between a locking

Art Unit: 1761

position and an unlocking position, and a module (6) for fitting on and releasably securing to the lid, the module including a device (10,13) for controlling locking and unlocking of the lid relative to the vessel. Thus, the features of the instantly rejected claims are structurally met by the reference.

Claims 1, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being clearly anticipated by Chen (US 6,257,124). Chen discloses an appliance for cooking food under pressure comprising a vessel (10) and a lid (20), at least one jaw (313) for locking the lid to the vessel, means (31) for driving the at least one jaw between a locking position and an unlocking position, and a module (32,36) for fitting on and releasably (see Fig. 2) securing to the lid, the module including a device (36) for controlling locking and unlocking of the lid relative to the vessel. Thus, the features of the instantly rejected claims are structurally met by the reference.

Claims 2-7 and 10-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.


Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Timothy F. Simone whose telephone number is 571-272-1407. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays between 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano can be reached on 521-272-1398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Timothy F. Simone
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1761